

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 are combined and non-narrowingly edited above. Because no new limitations are introduced and prior limitations are not narrowed, no Festo-like limitations should result despite some thinking to the contrary.

The only rejection that now applies is, therefore, for anticipation under 35 USC 102 by the Sandvik patent.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. MPEP 2131 (citations omitted)

As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the Sandvik patent has multiple nozzles, but not supply channels respectively thereto. Therefore, claim 1 is no longer anticipated.

The rejection should not be converted into one under 35 USC 103 for obviousness, because neither the Sandvik nor the Goodwin patent or, for that matter, the other cited art disclose the claimed channel and nozzle structure as structure for humidification as also claimed.

The prior limitation to a spraying head structured for humidification of intake air implied by the characterization of original claim 1 by the spraying head is now made explicit by Jepson form to assure this distinction of structure and teaching. In such a spraying head, the editing of claim 1 confirms nozzles 9, 10, 11 having respective supply channels 18, 18', 18" and valves 13, 14 (the shutting/regulating mechanism).

The terms in both the preamble describing the prior art and those elements constituting the improvement are substantive claim limitations. 37 CFR § 1.75(e). Wells Mfg. Corp. v. Littlefuse, Inc., 192 USPQ 256 (7th Cir. 1976).

In this case, the Sandvik patent only discloses a shower head, which is not structured for humidification, as claimed, and the Goodman patent only discloses a fluid injection system for "combustion enhancing fluid" (column 1, lines 8-9), which is not exactly humidification even if the fluid is water (column 1, line 8).

Further, there is only one bore 80, without nozzle, while the so-called nozzle 36' of Fig. 4, for example, is equitable with the claimed spraying head comprising a body. See, column 6, lines 14ff.

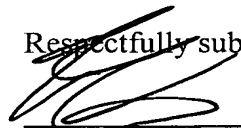
Furthermore, there is only one bore 80 for the fluid supply.. Single fluid channel 80 of the Goodman patent is surrounded by "... circumferentially arranged atomizing air supply channels 82 ..." (Column 6, lines 16-17).

Still furthermore, the output control of the Goodman patent is to the air flow rate (column 7, line 23) and, thus, to the plural air supply channels 82 collectively and "concomitant injection of fluid" (column 7, line 24) from the single fluid channel 80, i.e., all the channels together and not respectively, as claimed.

New claims 11-14 depend from claim 1 for direction to the same invention thereby.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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